

Dr. Albert Rose: Renaissance Man in the Field of Social Action

BY SIDNEY KATZ, M.S.W. '49

It can be truly said that Dr. Albert Rose was a Renaissance Man in the field of social action. He played many roles during his prolific career—scholar, teacher, administrator, community activist, author, social analyst and critic, pioneer in social work education and the father of public housing in Ontario.

It was my good fortune to have this remarkable person as my teacher during the two years I attended the School of Social Work immediately following World War II. Al Rose was the rare kind of teacher you never forgot—articulate, erudite, wise, decisive, stimulating and the possessor of a keen and spontaneous wit.

It was during my second year at School, when Al Rose became my thesis advisor, that I came to fully appreciate his intellectual stature. He had a talent for quickly identifying the weak spots in my research and deficiencies in the presentation of my material. He insisted that I revise certain chapters of my thesis two, three and sometimes, even four times. It was an arduous process, but ultimately, to my delight, it resulted in the production of an "A" thesis. More important, I improved my ability to deal with statistics, to more effectively present research material and to critically evaluate research studies. In my professional career, these skills have served me well.

Shortly after Dr. Rose died last August 9th, his son Jeff wrote a moving tribute to his father which summarized his rich and diverse career. As I read it, an observation made by Jean Jacques Rousseau, 200 years ago, came to mind. "What wisdom can you find that is greater than kindness?" The dominant and abiding theme of Al Rose's career was kindness. He was motivated by altruism, decency and a passion for social justice.

Al Rose was a loyal and devoted son of the School of Social Work. The relationship began in 1946 when he became one of an elite group of scholars recruited by the School's new director, Harry Cassidy. Appointed as a

lecturer in research methodology and statistics, two years later he became an assistant professor. Ten years later he was a full professor at the age of 38. From 1969 to 1972, during the critical period when the School was granted the status of a Graduate Faculty, Al Rose served as Director; for another four years he continued to head the school in the capacity of Dean, then returned to teaching. Upon retirement in 1983, Dr. Rose became Professor



Emeritus, and, for the next twelve years—until the year before his death—he continued to give a few courses each year.

Al Rose's friends, colleagues and mentors were the giants of social work reform and scholarship in Canada. In the 1930's, he was part of the inner circle of the League for Social Reconstruction, the Fabian Wing of the precursor of the New Democratic Party, the C.C.F., which included such notables as Dr. Harry Cassidy, Humphrey Carver and Leonard Marsh. Dr. Rose also collaborated with two distinguished social activists of their time—Bessie Touzel of the Toronto Welfare Council and Harold Clark of the City of Toronto Planning Board.

Organizations constantly turned to Al Rose for guidance because of his expertise and leadership qualities. In his tribute, Jeff Rose

lists some 300 organizations—in the fields of social work, health, religion, government and education—in which his father had been involved. He has also been courted by all three major political parties to run for Parliament. Al Rose was also offered positions by the Federal Government in Ottawa and the United Nations in New York, "my father refused these offers", said Jeff Rose, "because he preferred to bring up his family in Toronto and pursue his teaching and research interests at the University of Toronto".

Al Rose's prodigious literary output enhanced his reputation as one of our foremost social analysts and critics. He was the author of six books, 20 book chapters, over 100 articles in academic journals and countless research reports, pamphlets, conference addresses, book reviews and articles in magazines and newspapers. Little wonder the Globe and Mail once admiringly referred to him as "a hard-hitting one man social conscience" and "an outspoken and respected critic".

Last June, Al Rose spoke to the graduating classes of social workers and nurses. He used the occasion to express his concern about the severe funding cut-backs in health and social services. But always as the inspiring teacher and leader, he exhorted his youthful audience to act constructively and not abandon their professional ideal during the difficult years ahead. Al Rose's closing words contain a challenging message for all of us in the profession:

"As a new millennium approaches in which you will lead your lives, the responsibility falls on you to rebuild and restore the caring responsibility upon which the meaningful exercise of your profession depends.

Both as citizens and practitioners you can have an impact upon society and upon the values it chooses to express. Act you must. You have a noble tradition of altruistic values to safeguard and a world to reshape in their image".

ONE JUST MAN - ALBERT ROSE, 1917-1996

We are here today to stabilize an image of Albert Rose in our minds, and to affirm his continuing living presence in our lives. The most recurring image for me, in the months and days since Al's death, is the roaming shape of the Greek philosopher, Diogenes, who went around Athens holding a lantern in broad daylight seeking one just man. Had he held his lantern up and scrutinized Al his search would have been over, for Al was the embodiment of a just man. Al was, to borrow a line from poet Seamus Heaney, "like a vein of silver in heavy clay."

When Al's pulsebeat abandoned him on August 9, Thelma and the children lost a devoted and caring husband, father and grandfather, the Faculty of Social Work lost its most prominent and accomplished scholar in its eighty-two year history, and I lost a wonderful mentor and friend. I learned of his death a few days later just as I was leaving the Faculty to catch a bus to Trent University in Peterborough. It seemed poignant and fitting that on its way to the parkway the bus rolled through Regent Park, Canada's first large-scale public housing project, that had resulted from Al's determination in the late 1940s to provide something better than the haunts of wretchedness and need that had characterized the area. I thought too, of his book, Regent Park: A Study In Slum Clearance (1958) that so solidly established his reputation as a scholar of the first-rank.

I remembered a story Robin Harris, an English Professor and the first principal of Innis College at the University of Toronto, once told me that illustrated how well known and respected Al was in Regent Park as the father of public housing. In the early 1960s Robin was campaigning for a school trustee position with the Toronto School Board in the ward that included Regent Park. All Robin had to do to get people's votes, was to mention that he was

a friend of the Professor, for that is how the Regent Park residents affectionately referred to Al. Robin always attributed his victory to Al and twenty-five years later still told this story.

Coming back into the city that evening it was as though a force for good had departed; we would not see him again but we would never be the same again for having seen him and known him and had him in the midst of our community . Some lines from Tennyson's great poem, Ulysses, seemed to hang in the still night air:

I am a part of all that I have met;
Yet all experience is an arch where-through
Gleams that untravelled world whose margin fades
Forever and forever when I move.
How dull it is to pause, to make an end,
To rust unburnished, not to shine in use!

Al more than anyone I have known, did shine in use. The list of his scholarly publications and University, community and agency involvements, as described in Jeff's beautifully crafted memoir of his father, is, as they say in the vernacular, awesome. Throughout his life Al was always fully engaged and yet seemed to move through it all with an unhurried grace unusual in the academic world.

I first met Al in the early summer of 1976, and like all subsequent encounters it was memorable. Professor John Gandy had informed me that the Faculty of Social Work had a nine month contract position in the community work concentration and that I should call up Al, who was just finishing his term as Dean, to indicate my interest. It was with some trepidation that I came to see him since I had heard that he could be formidable and impatient with fools, not

that I considered myself a fool but I worried that he might. He greeted me warmly and soon after our chat began he said, "you aren't by any chance the son of John Irving who taught philosophy at Victoria College?" I had never been so thankful in my life to have a connection made that I usually wanted to avoid. This seemed to raise my academic status in his eyes and I think I cemented the case when I informed him that I would like to do a Ph.D. after the contract ended. "Well, perhaps I could be your supervisor," he said, and thus began a twenty-year relationship that over time ripened into a close and marvellous friendship.

He was the best of thesis supervisors: encouraging, insightful, and most important, caring. It was during these years, in the late 1970s, that we began to have long discussions, usually in his office but sometimes over coffee or lunch. An encounter with Al was like listening to a Mahler symphony. There were main themes, and many intriguing digressions and changes of mood as the words tripped easily off his tongue. A vast range of topics would be covered: some aspect of social welfare history, current politics, his family, other people and their foibles. It soon emerged that Al relished stories about other people as much as I did and he had amassed an immense storehouse of anecdotes; once he saw that I was a receptive audience he held nothing back, lacing his accounts with humour, sometimes gentle, other times more biting. I loved it, and would pass on whatever I could to him.

Both of us took great pleasure in discussing social welfare history and we spent many enjoyable hours galloping off in all directions refreshing our mental outfits on such topics as the famous Fabian reformers, Sidney and Beatrice Webb, Canadian pioneers of social welfare, Harry Cassidy and Leonard Marsh, or some abstruse detail of the Roosevelt New Deal. Despite his enormous erudition Al, unlike many academics, never pretended to know everything; if I told

him something about Beatrice Webb for example, that he hadn't heard before, he would express surprise and seem grateful to be in possession of this new knowledge. He had a deep fondness for Harry Cassidy, who as Director of the School, had hired Al in 1946 on a part-time basis and then brought him on full-time in 1948; since I was writing my thesis on Cassidy, Al would regale me with many stories, chuckling as he remembered some Cassidy outburst or exasperation.

Al was part of a tradition that reached back through Cassidy to the Fabian reformers who believed that sound social research used to educate the public about social problems stood the best chance of bringing about spreading social change. Al was firmly connected to a long line of progressive twentieth-century reformers who wished to harness together technical expertise and the power of the state for the cause of social reform. His social philosophy was always seeking to find a compromise and the appropriate adjustments between individualism and collectivism as the fundamental basis for the reconstruction of society. Sometimes we talked of these fine points of political philosophy, ideas to beat back the chaos and to generate hope about the future.

In 1979 I interviewed Al for the oral history project that was being carried out by the University of Toronto Archives. In preparation I gave him a list of possible topics we might cover from his early family history, through his academic training to his university teaching and research. The taped interview ran over five hours and I doubt that Al's power of recall was ever more brilliantly on display. Although he had no notes, he clearly was ready and spoke in complete sentences and paragraphs. The University of Toronto archivists had never heard anything like it and his stunning performance has become a legend at the Archives. I was deeply

touched when I learned recently that Thelma listens to some of these tapes every day so she can hear Al's voice.

I learned much about teaching from Al too. Like a crack trumpet player punching out the notes Al's lectures were virtuoso solo turns. Crisp and able, well organized and thoroughly prepared, Al year after year put his mind and heart into his teaching, an activity he embraced with an enthusiasm that never flagged. He knew his subject and filled the classroom with it, and long after he retired, he continued to teach one or two courses a year. It seemed he would go on forever but the ravages of time and ill health finally caught up with him and when he left the last classroom for the last time it was truly the end of an era. We were privileged to know Al Rose as a teacher, for his likes will not come again; his ability to consistently sustain over the long years such a high level of graduate instruction was rarer than radium. When I began my own full-time teaching career in 1980 I often drew courage and inspiration from his example.

By the time I joined the Faculty in 1984, a job Al helped me get, just as he had the position at Western four years earlier, we had become fast friends. We started going to baseball games which always seemed to find Al in high spirits. If the evening was warm and pleasant he would be voluble and happy as we hastened along Front Street to the Skydome after an early light supper in the cafeteria of the Royal York Hotel. Often, too often, we found ourselves sitting beside someone who was gorging on the egregious fare of the stadium's only food concession; Al would look at me, wink, and pretend to look disgusted. Soon the game would start and we would be fully absorbed. These were truly enjoyable moments, now everlasting instants in my mind.

We often went for lunch too. The nearby Swiss Chalet served our purpose if we didn't

have much time but if we wanted a more leisurely lunch with perhaps a glass of sherry and some desserts off we went to the Gallery Club here at Hart House. Al would always hope to get a table overlooking the Great Hall but would be only momentarily and mildly annoyed if one wasn't available. He took considerable delight in discussing the menu and what we might have, or sometimes, to make our choice easier, we would opt for the buffet. There would be the inevitable anecdotes and almost always we would encounter faculty from other departments who Al knew and light-hearted banter would invariably follow. These lunches were for me relaxing affairs and I found that being in Al's presence was like a cure you didn't notice happening, we were that comfortable with one another.

To be asked to speak here today by the family is a great honour for Al was a good and loyal friend and colleague. We remember today that at the centre of Al's life there stood a home and a family and that from the members of that family he received constant care and affection. On this quiet December afternoon our love and respect for you Al burns on and on through the sadness and the silence.

Allan Irving
Albert Rose Remembrance
Great Hall, Hart House, University of Toronto
Tuesday, December 3, 1996

ALBERT ROSE, Ph.D., LL.D.

Born October 17, 1917. Died August 9, 1996.

- University of Toronto teacher, scholar and administrator.
 - Welfare policy advocate and social reformer.
 - Social analyst and critic.
- A pioneer of social work education and practice in Canada.
- A leader of the Canadian community planning movement.
 - A father of socially-assisted housing in Ontario.
- An architect of Toronto's system of metropolitan government.
- An activist in relations between Jews and the wider community.

*By Jeff Rose
December, 1996*

Albert Rose was born in October, 1917, on Grange Avenue in Toronto, about a hundred yards from what is now the Art Gallery of Ontario. He was brought up in south Riverdale, graduating from Riverdale Collegiate in 1935. His father, Mark E. Rose, born in the Whitechapel district of London, England, had immigrated to Toronto in November, 1912, with an elementary-school teaching certificate from the London County Council. The only classroom position that Mark could find was in the far north, so he decided to leave teaching and found work as a rail checker for the C.P.R. before settling in permanently with a waste-paper business in Toronto's east end. Albert's mother, Frances (Spiegel), born on Manhattan's lower-east side, had immigrated to Toronto as a child in 1899 with her parents. After she and Mark married in 1916, she continued to work part-time in a department store to help make ends meet.

Aided by a series of scholarships, Albert attended the University of Toronto, excelling in Hart House debates and graduating in 1939 with the University College gold medal in political science and economics. Further scholarships took him to the University of Illinois, where in 1940 he earned his M.A. and in 1942 his Ph.D. in economics and statistics with a dissertation on the cyclical problems which could be expected to confront the Canadian economy during the initial years of post-war readjustment. Following eight months' service with J.D. Woods & Gordon, Ltd., consultants to the

Wartime Prices and Trade Board, he enlisted in the Canadian Army and served for three years, reaching the rank of 1st Lieutenant in the Directorate of Military Intelligence (Ottawa), where he was part of a team which analysed the movement of raw materials within the Japanese empire.

He was demobbed toward the end of 1945 and immediately was hired by Dr. Bessie Touzel to be the first research director of the Toronto Community Chest and Welfare Council, predecessor of the Metro Social Planning Council and the Greater Toronto United Way. The following year, Prof. Harry Cassidy brought Dr. Rose into the University of Toronto's graduate School of Social Work as a special lecturer in research methodology and statistics. His duties at the School soon were expanded, and in 1948 he was appointed an assistant professor.

In the meantime, he had become a leader of the citizens' delegation that persuaded Toronto City Council to place a resolution on the civic ballot in 1947 to authorize the construction of Canada's first major slum clearance and low-rental rehousing project, Regent Park North. Shortly after, he was recruited to the executive committee of the Toronto Citizens' Housing and Planning Association, one of the key groups in the early post-war years that were pressing for a governmental commitment to community planning and public housing. A passionate advocate of the public responsibility to provide the disadvantaged with sound, affordable accommodation and neighbourhood public amenities, Dr. Rose became a founding member of the Community Planning Association of Canada and soon was a prominent force in the movement for socially-assisted housing nationally.

He also was recruited to the executive committee of the Toronto Civic Advisory Council, which had been given responsibility by the City of Toronto and some suburban leaders to conduct an intensive study of metropolitan problems and to offer alternative solutions. As head of the Council's research committee, he wrote both the study and the final report, *Proposals for the Metropolitan Area of Toronto* (1951). When Toronto City Council petitioned the Ontario Municipal Board to order the amalgamation of the surrounding municipalities with the City, Dr. Rose was one of the leading voices at the O.M.B. hearing to dissent. Elaborating a set of democratic, social and economic concerns, he argued that a balance of local and regional interests in the metropolitan Toronto area could be better achieved by applying the principles of federation to local governments than by amalgamating them. The O.M.B. rejected the City's amalgamation petition and recommended that the existing local government structure be modified by the creation of a metropolitan federation. This was accepted by the Province, and the new structure, soon familiarly known as Metro, came into being in 1954.

In 1956, at the age of 38, Dr. Rose was promoted to full professor. He became Director of Social Work in 1969, guiding the School to the status of a graduate Faculty three years later and becoming its first Dean. He served in that capacity from 1972 to 1976 and then returned to full-time teaching. Former students tell stories of his dynamic lecturing style, animated sense of humour and deep attachment to the University. *The Globe and Mail* observed in a 1969 profile that the attributes his colleagues were quick to mention were “his intelligence and candour.” Prof. Charles E. (‘Chick’) Hendry, who preceded him as Director, appraised his successor as, “a brilliant mind, and always his feet are firmly planted on the ground.” Prof. Hendry went on to describe his colleague’s “never failing accent on human need and social well-being” and “his abounding wit and informality.” Named Professor Emeritus when he retired in 1983, Dr. Rose continued to teach several courses a year until 1995, dividing his time between the University of Toronto and Wilfred Laurier University in Waterloo.

Altogether, Prof. Rose’s career of teaching and research at the University of Toronto spanned forty-nine years. His principal areas of scholarship and advocacy were those of housing policy, social welfare policy, urban affairs and metropolitan governance, social work education and practice, public administration, gerontology, and relations between Jews and the wider community. His research was meticulous and his analysis measured. His style was crisp and clear, scholarly but never abstract. Three of his books are considered classics in their field: *Regent Park: A Study in Slum Clearance* (University of Toronto Press, 1958); *Governing Metropolitan Toronto 1953-1971* (University of California Press, 1973); and *Canadian Housing Policies 1935-1980* (Butterworth, 1980). In *Compassionate Landscape* (1975), Mr. Humphrey Carver described him as, “the leading Canadian scholar of housing problems.” Overall, his output comprised six books, twenty book chapters, over a hundred academic journal articles and research reports, and countless essays, pamphlets, conference addresses, book reviews, and articles for newspapers and magazines.

While most of his writings dealt with his primary themes, he did not think of them as being canonically distinct from one another. Rather, he considered housing, urban affairs, metropolitan governance, economics and social welfare to be allied features of a single, interdisciplinary policy nexus. Besides his trademark topics, he also wrote on pensions, employment and consumption patterns, health care, the adaptation of immigrants, discrimination in employment, research methodology in the social sciences, residential standards, child welfare, the quality of the social environment, the quality of the urban environment, the working poor, citizen participation in the making of public policy, demography, human rights, voluntary service, and Canadian federalism. From time to time he also stepped back and

examined the interaction between policy and its social context, producing essays with such reflective themes as, 'The socio-economics of social justice,' 'The social purpose of public housing,' 'The functional scope of social planning,' 'Adequate housing: does it make better citizens?,' 'Public welfare and the right to shelter,' 'The Canadian conservative welfare state,' 'The role of government in promoting social change,' 'The rise and fall of social housing,' and 'The work ethic and welfare reform.' He did considerable research work for the Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, which published his experimental study *Local Housing Conditions and Needs* in 1955 and his *Report on Rents in Public Housing* in 1960. The evolution of his views on the renewal of neighbourhoods having a preponderance of substandard housing culminated in his report to the City of Toronto Planning Board on *Rehabilitation of Housing in Central Toronto* (1966). He provided the chapter on "Social Services" in the Canadian centennial volume edited by J.M.S. Careless and R.C. Brown under the title, *The Canadians, 1867-1967* (Macmillan, 1967). He also provided the chapter on religious freedom and edited *A People and its Faith* (University of Toronto Press, 1959), a volume of essays on Canadian Jews and Reform Judaism.

Named vice-chairman of the Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority in 1955, Dr. Rose served in that voluntary capacity until the Authority was absorbed by the newly-created Ontario Housing Corporation in 1964. The Province appointed him to the O.H.C.'s first board of directors, and he remained a member until 1980. He then became the first chairman of the reconstituted Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority. Referring to Dr. Rose's role as a progenitor of public housing as well as one of its most dedicated administrators, Mr. David Lewis Stein described him in *The Toronto Star* in 1981 as being "in the tradition of great entrepreneurial civil servants." He retired from the M.T.H.A. chair in 1986.

It was as a contributor to *Canadian Welfare*, *The Canadian Forum* and *Food for Thought* during the 1940's and 1950's that Dr. Rose first acquired a reputation as a rigorous social analyst and a thoughtful social critic. This, coupled with his expanding profile as a welfare activist and scholar, a pioneer of public housing in Ontario and a forceful educator unencumbered by dogmatism, made him a popular conference speaker and media commentator in the decades that followed. His opinions were sought as much by reporters and trade union researchers as by politicians and public servants, and he was as comfortable delivering a C.B.C. *Commentary* tinged with radicalism as he was among the handful of invited social critics on the platform of the Hon. Mitchell Sharp's influential Kingston Conference on public policy in the fall of 1960.

The *Globe* described him in 1965 as, "a hard-hitting, one-man social conscience," and "an outspoken but respected critic" with "a flair for

showering scorn on policies that he believes can be improved.” When he became Director of Social Work in 1969, the *Globe* depicted him as, “a half-step ahead of his time, but always relevant and pragmatic.” In 1964, the Canadian Labour Congress asked for his and Prof. John Morgan's help in its campaign for better pension, health and welfare legislation. Their resulting paper, ‘The unfinished business in social security,’ was published by the C.L.C. in 1965 and was widely distributed. Among his other efforts at pamphleteering were his September, 1951 and June, 1954 articles in *The Canadian Forum* promoting National Health Insurance, and his scathing two-part analysis of the Hellyer Task Force on Housing and Urban Development in the *Globe* in 1969.

Finding itself in the midst of a complex and disagreeable housing scandal, Toronto City Council turned to him in 1965 for guidance. As Mayor Givens explained to the *Globe*, “If Dr. Rose can’t help us, there’s no power on earth that can.” His resulting *Report of the City of Toronto Consultative Committee on Housing Policies* (1966) prompted an invitation from the Board of Control for him to become the City's housing chief. He declined, as he did various opportunities over the years to work in Ottawa and at the United Nations, preferring to bring up his family in Toronto and to pursue his many teaching and research interests at the University. He also declined overtures from all three parties to run for Parliament, perhaps deterred by the sacrifice of intellectual and moral independence that this would have entailed, or perhaps by the example of Prof. Cassidy’s unrewarding experience with partisan politics during the latter part of his career.

Meanwhile, Metro government came under attack from proponents of regional amalgamation. In vigorous testimony in 1964 before the Royal Commission on Metropolitan Toronto and through numerous pamphlets, articles and speeches, Dr. Rose again established himself as a leading critic of amalgamation and defender of the metropolitan federation. A reporter for *The Toronto Telegram* observed that:

“Exchanges between Dr. Rose and Commissioner H. Carl Goldenberg brought out some of the most meaningful arguments against amalgamation so far presented at the hearing. Under questioning, Dr. Rose said efficiency should not be the only standard applied in deciding whether to amalgamate. There is a sound case, said Dr. Rose, for deliberately assigning functions to smaller units of local governments to ensure their continued existence. He predicted centralized local government would bring apathy, distrust and deep disinterest on the part of most citizens.”

Ultimately, the two-tier system of government was preserved by the Province and remains a cornerstone of local democracy in the Toronto area. The citation that he received from Ryerson on being awarded an honorary doctorate earlier this year summarized his civic legacy as follows: “Metro

Toronto can trace its roots as an urban region that works, and its relative absence of slums, to Albert Rose.”

The driving force of Albert Rose’s character and accomplishments was his ancestral Jewish faith, which instilled in him a passion for social justice and a belief in the ethical responsibility of the individual member of the community. An additional aspect of his upbringing, a socialistic orientation typical of the times, taught him that learning should be valued highly, but not solely for its own sake: one’s obligation was not only to understand the world, but also to make it a better place. As he grew into adulthood in the 1930’s, his personal combination of moral and political philosophy melded comfortably with the pragmatic intellectualism of the League for Social Reconstruction, the Fabian wing of the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation. The L.S.R., too, espoused a credo that was not content merely to proclaim itself. The L.S.R.’s ideals spoke to the needs of the community, and the essence of those ideals was that as well as being declared, they had to be transformed, through individual and collective effort, into practical activities and policies that helped people achieve a better life in a better society. Here one sees the influence in his life of Prof. Harry Cassidy, Mr. Humphrey Carver and Prof. Leonard Marsh, three distinguished Canadian scholars and social reformers of the L.S.R. inner circle who were his friends and mentors.

Further strengthening his social philosophy were his association with Dr. Bessie Touzel of the Toronto Welfare Council and with Mr. W. Harold Clark of the City of Toronto Planning Board, two remarkable activists whose personal convictions combined practical social service with deep humanistic values. Completing this portrait of mutually reinforcing influences was the University’s School of Social Work itself, whose ethos encompassed both the idealistic virtues of altruism and community service and the utilitarian virtues of applied social science and down-to-earth professionalism. This dualistic approach to human betterment, which reflected the founding vision of the School in 1914, also owed much to two of its interwar Directors. Prof. R.M. MacIver’s work fused sociological insight with a strong sense of human compassion and social justice. Prof. E.J. Urwick had come to Toronto after establishing England’s first academic program in sociology and social economics, a program deeply rooted in moral philosophy but activist in its orientation. (It eventually was absorbed into the London School of Economics.) Such contributions helped make Toronto’s School of Social Work part of a historical continuity of interdisciplinary scholarship, social concern and pragmatic humanitarian reform.

All of Albert Rose’s key influences, in other words, shaped a man whose inner ideals and social ideals were a mirror of one another. Throughout his

life he turned his passionate intelligence to altruistic purposes, displaying the same personal qualities of moral engagement, service and decency that symbolized the kind of society he toiled to create. Some might say that this kind of society predeceased him. But to him, the economic and social trends of the last few years were cyclical, caused by familiar problems of inequality, unfettered individualism and moral indifference, and requiring familiar responses. This is how he ended a speech this past June to a group of graduates in social work and nursing:

“Under a renewed onslaught of *laissez-faire* thinking, we are seeing the good society gradually slip backward from relative social and economic security to relative social and economic anxiety and uncertainty. As a new millennium approaches in which you will lead most of your lives, the responsibility falls to you to rebuild and restore the caring society upon which the meaningful exercise of your professions depends. Both as citizens and as practitioners, you can have an impact upon your society and upon the values it chooses to express. Act, you must. You have a noble tradition of altruistic values to safeguard, and a world to reshape in their image.”

Dr. Rose was in demand from many organizations to serve on their boards and committees, task forces and advisory bodies. In addition to the voluntary activities already mentioned, he devoted time to the Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai Brith for four decades, particularly in the fields of joint community relations and demographic research. He gave assistance to the young Ontario Human Rights Commission in the early 1960's. He was Ontario division chairman of the Community Planning Association of Canada for several years during the 1950's and national vice-president in 1955. He also contributed time to the Canadian Association of Social Workers (national president 1971-73), Canadian Welfare Council/Canadian Council on Social Development, Jewish Vocational Service of Toronto (founding member, and president 1952-55), Ontario Council of Health, National Association of Social Workers (charter member), Bureau of Municipal Research, United Jewish Welfare Fund, Canadian Association for Adult Education, Addiction Research Foundation, Co-ordinated Services for Jewish Elderly, Home Care Program for Metropolitan Toronto, Metropolitan Toronto District Health Council, United Way of Greater Toronto, Canadian Council on Urban and Regional Research (founding member), *Journal of Social Policy*, Canadian Urban Institute, Laidlaw Foundation, Vanier Institute of the Family, Canadian Council for Refugees, Ontario Gerontology Association (charter member), Hospital for Sick Children Foundation, Gerontology Research Council of Ontario, Institute of Housing Management (honorary member), Holy Blossom Temple, Canadian Friends of Haifa University, Canadian Friends of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Canadian Association for Israel Philately, University of Toronto President's Council (elected 1965-68), University of Toronto Faculty Association (elected 1979-84), and the University of Toronto Centre for

Urban and Community Studies (founding member, 1962), Gerontology Program (founding member, 1976) and Centre of Criminology. He also took a strong interest in the Faculty of Social Work's student emergency bursary fund, of which he is the namesake.

In 1942, Albert married Thelma Harris of Toronto. She obtained her M.Ed. while raising their children - Jeffrey, Leslie and Janis (Takach) - and then followed a career as an assessment and treatment psychometrist at the West End Crèche Child and Family Clinic until her retirement in 1988. Their home, like his classroom, was a place of liberal intellectualism: rigorous rationalism leavened with warmth, wit and irrepressible curiosity. He was a gentle man, even playful, in an intelligent sort of way. He was unpretentious, modest, wise, funny and endearingly candid. At the ceremony where he received his LL.D. from Ryerson, one of his former doctoral students evoked a certain side of his nature with the following reminiscence:

"Dr. Rose served as a mentor, a faculty or thesis advisor, and a teacher who challenged our thinking, enriched our minds, and broadened our perspectives on the context of social work practice. His teaching was punctuated with an acerbic wit and succinct and probing commentary. He was my own thesis advisor, and I remember to this day his brief, but pointedly accurate comment that the first draft of my thesis sounded like hysterical journalism. Needless to say, I rewrote that draft many times."

Prof. Rose was the kind of teacher who assisted, challenged and motivated those around him by expressing ideas with Socratic frankness. In keeping with his social philosophy, he believed that individuals had an obligation to themselves to be reflective, truthful and morally independent. But if he thought that a student was letting himself or herself down, he cared enough to say so directly and to offer encouragement. Many of his former students tell "Dr. Rose" stories in which words such as "honest," "forthright," "incisive" and "inspiring" figure prominently. These stories are appreciative chronicles of learning and personal growth. They are memories of a teacher who made a difference. By living his beliefs, Albert Rose shaped an enduring legacy of honesty, moral engagement and wide-ranging scholarship not only for his students, but also for his colleagues, family and community.

David,
I shall look
for a later
document which
exists somewhere

CURRICULUM VITAE

Al

ALBERT ROSE, PH.D.
Professor Emeritus
Faculty of Social Work
University of Toronto

JANUARY 1, 1984

CURRICULUM VITAE

ALBERT ROSE

ADDRESS

225 Cortleigh Boulevard
Toronto, Ontario
M5N 1P6

EDUCATION

1939

B.A. (Political Science and Economics)
University of Toronto (Gold Medallist)

1940

M.A. (Economics)
University of Illinois

1942

Ph.D. (Economics and Statistics)
University of Illinois

EMPLOYMENT

1942-43

Assistant Economist
J.D. Woods Co. Ltd. (later Woods, Gordon)

1943-45

Private to Lieutenant
Canadian Army (Intelligence Corps)

1946-48

Research Director
Welfare Council of Toronto
(later Metro Toronto Social Planning Council)

1948-83

University of Toronto (School of Social Work)
-Assistant Professor 1948-52
-Associate Professor 1952-56
-Professor 1956-59
-Director 1969-72

University of Toronto (Faculty of Social Work)

-Dean 1972-76
-Professor 1976-83
-Professor Emeritus 1983-

COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

CHAIRMAN

1980-to date

Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority

1952-55

Community Planning Association of Canada
(Ontario Division)

1965-66

Consultative Committee on Housing Policies for the City of
Toronto

VICE-CHAIRMAN

1956-64

Metropolitan Toronto Housing Authority

1955

Community Planning Association of Canada
(National Vice-President)

1965-76, 1982-

Joint Community Relations Committee
(Canadian Jewish Congress and B'nai B'rith)

MEMBER: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1964-79

Ontario Housing Corporation and Ontario Student Housing
Corporation

1974-79

Ontario Council of Health

- Committee on Health Research and Development (1975-79)

- Chairman, Committee on Health Care for the Aged (1976-79)

1978-to date

Institute for the Clinical Study of Addictions
(Addiction Research Foundation)

1973-to date

Metropolitan Toronto Home Care Program

1979-81

Co-ordinated Services for the Jewish Elderly

1948-to date

Jewish Vocational Service of Toronto
President 1952-54

PUBLICATIONS

BOOKS:

An Experimental Study of Local Housing Conditions and Needs. (Ottawa, Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, 1955) pp. 275.

Regent Park: A Study in Slum Clearance. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1958, pp. 242.

Editor. A People and Its Faith. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1959, pp. 205.

Editor and contributor. The Research Compendium: Review and Abstracts, 1942-1962. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1964. Introductory article, "The Research Requirement," pp. 9-26.

Governing Metropolitan Toronto: A Political and Social Analysis, 1953-1971. Berkeley, California: University of California Press, 1973, pp. 215.

Canadian Housing Policies: 1935-1980. Toronto: Butterworths, 1980, pp. 224.

RESEARCH REPORTS:

Reports of the Committee on Metropolitan Problems. Civic Advisory Council of Toronto, 1949-51. Vol. I, Part 1, p. 86; Vol. I, Part 2, p. 258; Vol. III, p. 53.

A Report on Rents in Public Housing. Ottawa: Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation, 1960, p. 138.

Final Report. Consultative Committee on Housing Policies for the City of Toronto, January 1966, p. 15. Interim Report, October 1965, p. 12.

The Rehabilitation of Housing in Central Toronto. Research report submitted to the City of Toronto Planning Board, September 1966, p. 122.

Social Services in Metropolitan Toronto, Paper 11B, Centennial Study and Training Programme on Metropolitan Problems. Toronto: Bureau of Municipal Research, March 1967, p. 56.

The Nature and Scope of Canadian Housing Policy. Position paper for the Canadian Conference on Housing, Toronto, October 1968. Ottawa: Canadian Conference on Housing, 1968, p. 117.

Citizen Participation in Urban Renewal. Final report of a study conducted under the auspices of the Centre for Urban and Community Studies and funded by Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation. Toronto: Centre for Urban and Community Studies, University of Toronto, 1974, p. 229. Appendices p. 47.

Health Care for the Aged. Toronto, Ontario Council of Health, 1978, p. 94, Appendices A-D.

CHAPTERS IN BOOKS:

"Canada: The Design of Social Change," in I.A. Litvak, and B.E. Mallen, eds., Marketing: Canada. Toronto: McGraw-Hill, 1964, pp. 2-14.

"A Critique of Metropolitan Government in Toronto, 1953-65". In Planning, 1965. Selected papers from the Joint Planning Conference of the American Society of Planning Officials and the Community Planning Association of Canada. Chicago: American Society of Planning Officials, 1965, pp. 5-21.

"The Social Services in the Modern Metropolis," in Meyer N. Zald, ed., Social Welfare Institutions: A Sociological Reader. New York: John Wiley, 1965, pp. 291-308.

Editor and contributor, Urban Development: Implications for Social Welfare. The Canadian National Committee Report, Thirteenth International Conference of Social Work, Washington, D.C., September, 1966, pp. 64.

"The Social Services," in J.M.S. Careless, and R.C. Brown, eds., The Canadians, 1867-1967. Toronto: Macmillan, 1967, pp. 734-63.

"The Case Against Amalgamation in Metropolitan Toronto," in Joseph A. Zimmerman, ed., Government of the Metropolis: Selected Readings. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1968, pp. 219-27.

"Canadian Housing Policies," in Michael Wheeler, ed., The Right to Housing. Montreal: Harvest House, 1969, pp. 63-119.

"The Case Against Total Amalgamation," in L.D. Feldman, and M.D. Goldrick, eds., Politics and Government in Urban Canada. Toronto: Methuen, 1969, pp. 232-240.

"The Crisis in Urban Renewal," in W.E. Mann, ed., Social and Cultural Change in Canada. Toronto: Copp Clark, 1970, pp. 193-204.

- "Welfare Services in Metropolitan Areas," in Simon Miles, ed., Metropolitan Problems: International Perspectives. Toronto: Methuen, 1970, pp. 215-241.
- "Housing and Social Welfare," in Paul C. Vrooman, ed. Transdisciplinary Issues in Social Welfare. Waterloo: Graduate School of Social Work, 1972, pp. 37-53.
- "Social Aspects of Public Housing," "Rehabilitation as a Component of Urban Renewal," "Cities of Cliff Dwellers," in Kanak S. Sayegh ed., Canadian Housing: A Reader. Waterloo, Ontario: University of Waterloo, 1972, pp. 122-137.
- "Two Decades of Metropolitan Government in Toronto: 1953-1973," in Look to the North: Canadian Regional Experience. Washington: Advisory Commission on Intergovernmental Relations, 1974, 33-48.
- "Two Decades of Metropolitan Government in Toronto: 1953-1973," in R.C. Bryfogle, and R.R. Krueger, eds., Urban Problems, Holt, Rinehart and Winston, Toronto, 1975, pp. 334-340.
- "The Canadian Welfare State and Federalism," in D. Thurz, and J.L. Vigilante, eds., Meeting Human Needs: Additional Perspectives from Thirteen Countries, Social Service Delivery Systems, Vol. 2, Los Angeles: Sage Publications, 1976, pp. 9-31.
- "Cities as Human Settlements," in People and Places: Social Work Education and Human Settlements, pp. 16-35, ed., R. Splane, New York: International Association of Schools of Social Work, 1977.
- "The Impact of Recent Trends in Social Housing Policies"; in Urban Housing Markets: Recent Directions in Research and Policy, ed., L.S. Bourne and J.R. Hitchcock, pp. 261-278. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1978.
- "Professional Incomes and Government Restraint Programs: The Case of the Employee Professions"; in The Professions and Public Policy, eds., P. Slayton and M.J. Trebilcock, pp. 290-302. Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1978.
- "The Jewish Elderly: Behind the Myths" in Weinfeld, M., Shaffir, W. and Cotler, I. The Canadian Jewish Mosaic, (Toronto, John Wiley + Sons, 1981) pp. 193-204.

JOURNAL ARTICLES, BRIEFS AND MAJOR PUBLISHED PAPERS

- "Canada: The Design of Social Change," Business Quarterly, XIII (Winter 1958), pp. 207-213.
- "Co-ordination in Physical and Social Planning in a Metropolitan Area," Social Service Review, XXXII (December 1958), pp. 374-386.
- "The Relationship Between Public Housing and Public Welfare," Habitat, II (June 1959), pp. 2-9.
- "Forces Shaping Our Cities," Canadian Welfare, XXXV (July 1959), pp. 163-167.
- "Comments on the Report of the R.A.I.C. Committee of Inquiry Into the Design of the Residential Environment," Canadian Architect, V (September 1960), pp. 48-50.
- "Image of the City," Canadian Architect, VI (October 1961), pp. 45-52.
- "Education for Community Living," Continuous Learning, I (May-June 1962), pp. 149-161.
- "A Changed City," Canadian Welfare, XXXIX (January-February 1963), pp. 6-11.
- "Services for the Changed City," Canadian Welfare, XXXIX (March -April 1963), pp. 64-70.
- "The Case Against Total Amalgamation in Metropolitan Toronto," Public Affairs Report, IV (April 1963). University of California, Institute for Local Government.
- "The Social Services in the Modern Metropolis," Social Service Review, XXXVII (December 1963), pp. 375-388.
- "Some Reflections on a Decade of Metropolitan Government in Toronto." A Brief to the Royal Commission on Metropolitan Toronto, March 1964, pp. 15 (mimeographed).
- "Urban Renewal: Threat to Public Housing", Ontario Housing, IX (December 1963), pp. 4-5, 16-17.
- "A Decade of Metropolitan Government in Toronto," Buffalo Law Review, XIII (Spring 1964), pp. 539- 556.
- "Social Research and Social Planning". In The Canadian National Committee Report. Twelfth International Conference of Social Work, Athens, 1964. Ottawa: Canadian National Committee, 1964, pp. 15-22.

- "The Unfinished Business in Social Security." In Collaboration with Professor John S. Morgan. Proceedings, of the Social Security Conference, Canadian Labour Congress, 1965, pp. 105-126.
- "High-Rise Habitat: The Great Controversy," Canadian Architect, X (March 1965), pp. 42-46.
- "Social Aspects of Urbanization," in Planning for Modern Living, Humanities Lecture Series, Publication 26. Hamilton: McMaster University, Faculty of Engineering, 1966, pp. 28.
- "Strategies for Implementing Social Change." In The Role of Government in Promoting Social Change. Proceedings of a conference at Arden House, Harriman, New York, November 1965. New York: Columbia University School of Social Work, 1966.
- A Decade of Experience in Rehabilitation Services. Toronto: Jewish Vocational Service, 1966, pp. 15.
- "Housing in the Social Environment." In Habitat 77. A report of the 7th Stratford Seminar on Civic Design, July 1967. Toronto, 1967, pp. 2-23.
- "Research Into Social Aspects of Housing," Ontario Housing, XIII (Conference Issue, Fall 1967), pp. 20-27.
- "The Crisis in Urban Renewal in Metropolitan Toronto," Habitat, XI (May-June 1968).
- "The Housing Crisis of 1967 and Beyond," Information (United Steelworkers of America), XVI (March 1968), pp. 10-16.
- "The Concerned Majority: A Reaction to the Smug Minority," Community Planning Review, XVIII (Summer 1968), pp. 4-8.
- "Belles Paroles: une politique canadienne de l'habitation," Bien-Entres Social Canadien, XX (November-December 1968), pp. 149-152.
- "Brave New Words," Architecture Canada, XLV (September-October 1968), pp. 46-52.
- "City of Cliff Dwellers," Canadian Welfare, XLIV (September-October 1968) pp. 13-14.
- "Federal Housing Task Force: The Flaws in the House that Paul Built," Ontario Housing, XV (June 1969), pp. 8-15.
- "Poverty in Canada: An Essay Review," Social Service Review, XLIII (March 1969), pp. 74-84.

A Brief to the Task Force on Housing and Urban Development
("The Hellyer Task Force"), September 30, 1968, p. 13.

"New Perspectives: The Canadian Society of the Twentieth Century." In Proceedings, 50th Annual Convention of the Ontario Association of Homes for the Aged, Toronto, September 1969, pp. 1-22.

"The Community's Responsibility for Family Life." In Proceedings, Annual Conference of the Ontario Association of Children's Aid Societies, May 1970, pp. 51-61.

"Canadians Are Among the Best Housed People in the Modern World," Ontario Housing, XV (June 1970), pp. 11-15.

"The Background of Tenant Action," Housing and People, II (July 1971), pp. 11-12.

"Attitudes to Work and Employment During the 1970's." In Realities of the 1970's, Proceedings of the Professional Practitioners' Conference of the Jewish Occupational Congress, Toronto, October 27-29, 1971, pp. 7-17.

"Social Innovations in Housing," in Canadian Housing Design Council, Annual Conference. Ottawa: Mortgage and Housing Corporation, 1971, pp. 4-10.

"The Social Philosophy Underlying Public Housing," Ontario Housing, XVI (May 1972), pp. 6-9, 11.

"The Work Ethic and Welfare Reform," The Social Worker, XLI (Spring 1973), pp. 37-46.

"The Work Ethic and Welfare Reform: A Canadian Point of View," in Proceedings of the Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Meeting, Madison, Wis.: Industrial Relations Research Association, 1973, pp. 436-446.

A Brief to the Ontario Advisory Task Force on Housing Policy
("The Comay Task Force"), April, 1973, pp. 19.

"The Functional Scope of Social Planning." Occasional Papers in Social Work, No. 5, Spring 1974, (Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto), pp. 17.

"Politics and the Aging: The Canadian Experience." Occasional Papers in Social Work, No. 7, Summer 1975 (Faculty of Social Work, University of Toronto), pp. 14.

- "A Commentary on Housing Policy and Community Planning" in H.P. Oberlander, ed., Canada: An Urban Agenda, Ottawa: Community Planning and ASPO Press, 1976, pp. 194-196.
- "The Socio-economics of Social Justice," a paper presented to the Annual Meeting of the Canadian Association of Social Workers, Edmonton, June 1978, pp. 37.
- "Professional Incomes and Governmental Restraint Programs: The Case of the Employee Professionals;" (The Social Worker, Vol. 45, No. 2, 1977, pp. 60-66).
- "The Socio-economics of Social Justice;" (The Social Worker, Vol. 46, Nos. 1-2, 1978, pp. 6-9).
- "A Brief to the Royal Commission on the Status of Pensions in Ontario"; (O.A.P.S.W. News Magazine, Vol. 5, No. 1, 1978, pp. 13-15, 26-30).
- "Employment and Social Welfare," a paper presented to a Conference, in Full Employment: Social Questions for Public Policy (Toronto, Social Planning Council, December 1979), pp. 11-41.
- "The Politics of Aging," Perception. (Ottawa, Canadian Council on Social Development). Vol. 3, No. 3, January/February 1980, pp. 6-10.
- "Retirement Without Tears: An Essay Review," The Social Worker. Vol. 48, No. 3, Fall 1980, pp. 106-110.

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS

1949-to date

Member - Canadian Association of Social Workers

1971-73

President - Canadian Association of Social Workers

1959-to date

Member, Institute of Public Administration of Canada

1963-to date

Member, Canadian Association of Schools of Social Work

1973-to date

Canadian Correspondent, Journal of Social Policy, London
School of Economics and Cambridge University Press.

1976-to date

Member, Research Advisory Committee, Hospital for Sick
Children Foundation

1976-to date

Member, Canadian Association on Gerontology

1980-to date

Member, Research Advisory Committee, Gerontology Research
Council of Ontario

1981-to date

Member, Ontario College of Certified Social Workers

1956-to date

Member - National Association of Social Workers

1963-to date

Member - Academy of Certified Social Workers

1955-to date

Member - Council on Social Work Education

CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

1965-68

Member - President's Council, University of Toronto

1966-72

Member - Executive Committee of the Senate of the University of Toronto

1969-76

Director and Dean of Social Work

1963-to date

Founding Member and Member, Executive Committee, Centre for Urban and Community Studies

1969-72

Member, Executive Committee, Centre of Criminology

1971-72

Chairman, Senate Committee on the Report of the Commission on Post-Secondary Education in Ontario.

1979-to date

Elected Member of Council and Executive Committee (1980-81), University of Toronto Faculty Association.

HONOURS AND AWARDS

1939

H.A.C. Bruels Gold Medal, Political Science and Economics, University College, Toronto

1961

Honorary Life Member, Community Planning Association of Canada

1962-63

Senior Fellowship, Central Mortgage and Housing Corporation

1962-63

Visiting Research Fellow, School of Social Welfare, University of California, Berkeley.

July 1967

Canadian Centennial Medal, Government of Canada

1978

Long Service Award, University of Toronto Sequicentennial

1978

"Outstanding Achievement Award," O.A.P.S.W.

ADDENDUM

CURRICULUM VITAE

ALBERT ROSE

Visiting Professor, School of Social Work, Bar-Ilan
University, Ramat-Gan, Israel (February 1982).

Research Reports

"Support Systems for the Autonomous Elderly in Ontario",
with J. Grant Macdonald, September 1983, pp. IV, 160.

Memberships

Committee on Co-ordination of Long-Term Care, Metro Toronto
District Health Council, 1983-84.

Committee on Health Promotion/Disease Prevention, Ontario
Council of Health, Ministry of Health, Ontario,
1984-85.

Committee on Governmental Relations, United Way of Metro
Toronto, 1983-.

January 1, 1984

ADDENDUM
CURRICULUM VITAE

ALBERT ROSE

Visiting Professor of Canadian Studies, The Hebrew University
of Jerusalem, January 1 - June 30, 1985.

(Graduate Course entitled "A Comparative Analysis of
Issues in Social Welfare in the Modern Industrial State".)

Public Address on "The State of the Canadian Conservative Welfare
State: A Comparison with the United States, the United
Kingdom and Israel".

(Delivered at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, Israel,
May 14, 1985).

Publications:

Support Systems for the Autonomous Elderly in Ontario ,
with J. Grant Macdonald. (Toronto, Faculty of Social Work,
University of Toronto, March 1984, pp.160. ISSN 0710-0329.

Factors Influencing the Quality of Life of Community-Based
Elderly. with Robert Wallace and J. Grant Macdonald.

Part I: Literature Review (University of Toronto,

Centre for Urban and Community Studies
Research Paper No. 151 , March 1984. ISSN
0316-0068. ISBN: 0-7727-1315-4.
pp. 32.

Part II: Housing Conditions of the Elderly in Ontario

Research Paper No. 152, March 1984,
ISSN: 0316-0058; ISBN: 07727-1316-2.
pp.30.

Review: John Myles. Old Age in the Welfare State: The Political
Economy of Public Pensions. (Boston, Little Brown
Series on Gerontology, 1984. pp.121)
Canadian Journal on Aging. Vol.3 No.4 , Winter 1984.
pp.209-211.

July 1, 1985